

FLASHBACK

**Preserving
The Past
For the Future**

**WASHINGTON COUNTY
HISTORICAL SOCIETY**



Officers

Don Hunnicutt, President
 Pat Donat, Past President
 Michael Dabrishus, Vice President
 Irma Boyer, Recording Secretary
 Lois Miller, Corresponding Sec'y
 Keith Newhouse, Editor
 Jean Newhouse, Treasurer

Directors

Serving through 1988:
 David E. Lashley
 Mary Frances Newbern
 Betty Williams

Serving through 1989:
 Warren McDonald
 Jay Lewis
 Kim Allen Scott



Serving through 1990:
 Nancy Bittle
 Wally Ingalls
 Linda Nickle

Preserving the Past for the Future

FLASH

Volume
 Thirty-Eight

BACK

Number Four

✱

Published by the Washington County Historical Society
 118 East Dickson Street, Fayetteville, AR 72701

FLASHBACK is published quarterly in February, May, August and November. All material for publication should be sent to the Editor at 118 East Dickson Street, Fayetteville, AR 72701. There is no payment for articles published in FLASHBACK.

Membership in our Society is open to anyone interested in the collection and preservation of Washington County's history. We have members in all 50 states. Dues are on a discretionary "give what one chooses" basis starting with \$7.50 annually rising to \$150 for a lifetime membership. Donations, tax deductible according to current law, are gratefully received throughout the year. Members receive FLASHBACK quarterly and other mailings periodically. Copies of FLASHBACK for past issues are \$5.00 each, current year's quarterlies are \$3.00 each.

Mrs. Matilda Jane Tebbetts

UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS

NOV 2 1988

FAYETTEVILLE, ARKANSAS

MY DEAR MAT

by Michael J. Dabrishus

Head of Special Collections Dept. U.A.F.

While processing the papers of S.C. Dellinger, former professor and curator of the University Museum, Nan Lawler recently discovered a letter written in 1852 by Jonas Tebbetts. Although it cannot be determined just how Dellinger came to acquire the Tebbetts letter, his interest in Arkansas — and especially that of Washington County — was such that he collected artifacts and other materials associated with the region's history.

Recognizing that the members of the WCHS would be most interested in reading the Tebbetts letter, the following is made available. Since Jonas Tebbetts was a very capable writer, editing is minimal.

Anthony House, Little Rock, Ark's.¹
December 5, 1852

My Dear Mat:

I had intended writing you by the last mail, but business compelled me to delay until the hour of closing the mail had passed. I fear you will think this a poor excuse when you learn that I *found* time to write to Harvey - but you will forgive me I know if this comes to hand in due time.

I had expected to be on my way home by this time but I have not been able to accomplish all my business as yet but hope to be able to do so in time to be at home in three weeks from the day I started.



Tell brother Graham that I have succeeded in having a bill passed to be entitled "An Act to incorporate Arkansas College" — and that I will have it published in the papers of this city: also say to Harvey that I have 320 acres of Choctaw scrip for him.²

I will now give you some account of the manner in which I have passed the evenings since I have arrived here.

I arrived in this city on Tuesday evening after night — went to the barber shop, made my toilet and retired to my room. On Tuesday evening I went to Judge English's,³ saw Mrs. English, Mrs. Borland⁴ & some other ladies and spent a very pleasant evening. On Thursday evening I went round to take tea with Mr. Peter Hanger⁵ who married Miss Matilda Cunningham where I met some agreeable and intelligent gentlemen. On Friday evening Judge English gave a *supper* party, where I met some eight or ten of the most distinguished gentlemen of the state. The distinguished Judge King of Memphis, Tenn. was present⁶. Last evening I took a buggy ride, by special invitation, with Mrs. English and Mrs. Borland, and visited the members of the Legislature at their rooms after night. This morning I went to the Episcopal Church to hear some good music, but was disappointed. This afternoon I have taken a walk and returned to my room where I am now writing this letter to one Mat Teb, who is dearer to me than all the world besides.

I am now only waiting for the appropriation bill to pass — then I shall start home in double quick time. Please say to Mr. W.L. Wilson that I have just received his letter and will attend to his business as desired and just as well as though he were present.⁷

There is a great deal of dissipation here this winter — as much as I have ever seen and I want to get from amongst it.

There is no place where I can for a *single day* enjoy myself so much as in your society and that of our dear children. I have been very well since I left home and I hope you will take good — *very good care* of yourself for my sake. Tell

Thru my love to all our friends
As I have often assured you, I never know
how much I love you nor how necessary is
your society & my happiness. May Heaven
bless you & our dear little ones in my
 fervent prayer
Yr devoted
Jonas Tibb.

P.S. I expected a letter by last
mail from you - How you forgotten
to write -
Jonas Tibbets

Mrs. Matilda Jane Tibbets
Fayetteville
Ark. }

Copy of last page of Jonas Tebbetts' letter.

Hale I shall bring him something very pretty if he is a good
boy. Also say to Marion that if she will be a good girl I will
bring her something very pretty which she can't break.⁸
Tell their dear mother that I shall treat her the same way if
she is not a naughty girl.

I shall not forget the oysters and pineapples for Christmas nor oranges if I can get any.

I saw John as I came down. They are all well. The boat did not stop long enough to permit me to go ashore.

Give my love to all our friends. As I have often assured you, I never know how much I love you nor how necessary is your society to my happiness. May Heaven bless you & our dear little ones is my fervent prayer.

Yr. devoted,

Jonas Teb.

P.S. I expected a letter by last mail from you — Have you forgotten to write?

JM Tebbetts

NOTES

¹ Located on Markham Street two blocks east of the Statehouse, the Anthony House held a prominent position as the social and business center of Little Rock from 1840 until September 21, 1875, when it burned to the ground. In 1874 it served as the headquarters of Governor Elijah Baxter during the "Brooks-Baxter War."

² Arkansas College, at one time located on the east side of College Avenue between Dickson Street and Spring Street, was chartered December 14, 1852. Robert Graham served as its president, and Tebbetts served as secretary of its Board of Trustees. The college was destroyed by fire on March 4, 1862.

³ Judge E.H. English served as reporter of the Arkansas Supreme Court, 1845-1853. He was a candidate for associate justice of the Arkansas Supreme Court in 1848 but was defeated by David Walker. Ironically, he was elected to serve as chief justice of the Supreme Court in 1854, having the honor to preside with and over Judge Walker. Judge English married Miss Julia A. Fisher of Athens, Alabama, on September 30, 1840.

⁴ Solon Borland served as U.S. Senator from Arkansas, 1848-1853. Miss Mary J. Melbourne became Borland's third wife in 1845. Borland served in the Confederate Army, attaining the rank of brigadier general. Exposure during this service eventually caused his death at Houston, Texas, in 1864.

⁵ Peter Hanger resided in Little Rock since 1848. He owned the stage contracts from Little Rock to Hot Springs and Fort Smith, carrying the mail from 1848-1862. He married Matilda Cunningham on June 18, 1850.

⁶ Ephriam W.M. King was prominent in local affairs in Memphis from 1840 to 1860. He left the judiciary to become president of the Farmers and Merchants Bank, which eventually led to his financial ruin.

⁷ Washington L. Wilson, a Fayetteville merchant, operated a dry goods business on the north side of the square. A Freemason, he was a charter member of the Washington Lodge in 1835.

⁸ Tebbetts refers to their children, Clinton Hale and Marion.

PEDIGREE (AHNENTAFEL) CHART

by Tommie MacShannon Taylor

6565 S. 49th W. Ave.

Tulsa, OK 74132

Mrs. Lois Miller and the Society's genealogists were very happy with the numerous responses they received answering their request for a four-generation pedigree chart from you members. The interest was so great your editor has decided to run at least one "Ahnentafel" chart with each issue of FLASHBACK. We hope this additional feature will prompt you enthusiasts to get other genealogists and friends to join our Society.

Remember! Members enjoy four FLASHBACKS each year in February, May, August and November!

The following pedigree chart for Tommie MacShannon is what seems to be correct at the moment (April, 1986). Please be aware that all data has not been proven. (Double the number of the person to find the name of father - the following number is the mother.)

1. Tommie MacShannon, b 9 June 1922, Stilwell, Adair County, OK. m. 1 Feb. 1949, Tulsa, OK., Kenneth Ross Taylor.
2. John Wilkins Shannon, b 12 Nov. 1889, Washington Co., Ark., d. in train wreck near Mena, Ark. 25 May 1942. m. 8 Dec. 1912, Washington Co., Ark.
3. Nina Ann Hughes, b 6 Sep 1890, Washington Co., Ark.
4. William Malachi Shannon, b 11, June 1849, Washington Co., Ark., m2. 10 Apr. 1887, Washington Co., Ark., d 17 Oct. 1929, Vinita, OK.
5. Susan P. Garrett, b 22 Sep. 1863, Benton Co., Ark., d. 7 Ju. 1923, Washington Co., Ark.
6. Thomas Jefferson Hughes, b 18 Apr. 1856, Texas Co., Mo., 12 June 1886, Washington Co., Ark., d 16 Feb. 1899, Washington Co., Ark.
7. Annie Eliza Pumphrey, b 1 Sep. 1867, Grant Co., Ark., d. 21 Nov. 1959, Stilwell, Adair Co., Ok.
8. Alexander Shannon, b 9 Mar 1813, Logan Co., Ky., d. 16 Feb. 1890, Washington Co., Ark.

9. Perniza Oliver, b 9 Dec. 1827, Tenn., d. 9 Sep 1850, Washington Co., Ark.
10. James W. Garrett, b. 31 Aug. 1831, Tenn., m. prob. Benton Co., Ark., d. 21 Aug. 1892, Washington Co., Ark.
11. Elizabeth Nail, b ca 1829, Tenn., d. prob Benton or Washington Co., Ark.
12. Elkana (h) Hughes, b. ca 1824, Tenn, d 30 May 1860, Rock Island, Ill. (POW)
13. Pauline (Pelina) (Pelyne) Ellis, b. July 1833, Ky., d. Nov. 1861, Texas Co., Mo.
14. Francis Marion Pumphrey, b. 5 Mar. 1838, Ala, m. 9 Feb. 1860, Saline Co., Ark., d. 10 Apr. 1877, Sheridan, Ark.
15. Emily Elizabeth Tatum, b. 1 Mar. 1841, Ringgold, Catoosa Co., Ga., d 13 Mar. 1940, Stilwell, Adair Co., Ok.
16. Joseph Shannon, b. Va., m. 24 Nov. 1792, Davidson Co., Tenn. d 1831, prob. Washington Co., Ark.
17. Mary Billingsley, b. Va., d 1833, prob. Washington Co., Ark.
20. Elijah Garrett, b. ca 1800, S.C.,
21. Polly, b ca 1807, Tenn.
22. Aquilla Nail, b. Nov. 1786, Tenn., m Jan. 1813, Roane Co., Tenn., d. 17 May 1869, Lane Co., Ore.
23. Sarah Lee, b. ca 1793, S.C.
24. Samuel Hughes, b. 8 Dec. 1800, m. June 1818, d 29 Jan. 1881, prob. Texas Co., Mo.
25. Emilie (Millie) Wolford, b. ca 1798, Tenn or Va., d prob. Texas Co., Mo.
28. Nathan Pumphrey, b 4 Aug. 1804, Ga., m. 28 Aug. 1834, d. 18 May 1884, Sheridan, Ark.
29. Louisa McDaniel, b. 28 Oct. 1818, d. 24 July 1874, prob. Saline Co., Ark.
30. Haley Sane Tatum, b. 8 Feb. 1807, m 10 June 1827, d 22 July 1850, Walker Co., Ga. buried Anderson Cemetery, Ringgold, Ga.
31. Elizabeth Ann Anderson, b 17 Nov 1810, Tenn. or N.C., d 13 Nov. 1866, Grant Co., Ark.
32. Samuel Shannon, b. ca 1725, Lancaster Co., Pa., m. ca

- 1750, d. 4 Oct. 1811, Nashville, Tenn.
33. Jean Reid, b 1730, possibly Delaware, d. 1806/11
34. John Billingsley
44. Nicholas Nail, b ca 1750, d Apr 1828, Roane Co., Tenn.
45. Mary Ann
48. Abner Hughes, b 11 April 1773, m1, 27 Feb. 1810, d Dec. 1839, Sullivan Co., Tenn.
49. Rebecca Woodward, b 26 Nov. 1772, d 18 Sept. 1815
56. Jesse Pumphrey, b 1760-70, N.C., m 1804, d 1840, Tuscaloosa Co., Ala.
57. Susannah Clements
58. Berryman McDaniel
60. Haley Tatum, will, Rowan Co., N.C., 20 Mar. 1819
62. George Washington Anderson, b. 6 May 1779, d. 11 Oct. 1851, buried Anderson Cemetery, Ringgold, Ga.
63. Elizabeth Ann Hearst, b 23 Sep. 1780, d. 17 Aug. 1847, buried Anderson Cemetery, Ringgold, Ga.
64. Thomas Shannon, b. 1691?, Ulster Ireland d. Apr 1737, will, Lancaster Pa.
65. Agness (Eigness) (Possibly Reid), b. 1695? Ulster Ireland
66. John Reid of Delaware
112. Silvanus Pumphrey, II
113. Ann (Bearman/Boarman) ?
114. Reuben Clements, will proven 1 Feb. 1826, Tuscaloosa Ca. Ala.
115. Elizabeth Stuart
124. James Anderson, b ca 1740, b N. Ire., d between 1810 & 1814 Buncombe Co., N.C.
125. Martha (Pattie or Lydia?) Mallot
126. George Hurst, Buncombe, Co., N.C.
224. Silvanus Pumphrey, d Pitt Co., N.C.
448. Walter Pumphrey, b. Britain or New England. Will 1720-21 Baltimore Co., Md.
449. Marcy (Mercy), d 1724-25 Baltimore Co., Md.
896. Richard Pumphrey, fr Bristol, England, Was in Anne Arundel Co., Md. 1669.

Old Age is Always Fifteen Years Older than I am,

- iv. L. Mae, b. May 20, 1862; married Earl LeMar Carter Aug. 2, 1882; d. _____.
- v. William Welch, b. May 2, 1867; married Maude Richmond Feb. 1, 1888; d. _____.
- vi. L. Hubert, b. Aug. 17, 1873; married Annie Belle Irwin Nov. 16, 1896; d. _____.

James W. Yates continued to live on the same farm and practiced the blacksmith trade throughout his active life. He died May 23, 1882. He is buried in the Cane Hill Cemetery.

BLISS' SELECT GARDEN SEEDS.



B. K. BLISS & SON,

Nos. 41 Park Row, and 151 Nassau Street, New York. (P. O. Box. No. 5712.)

Importers, Growers, and Dealers in Garden, Field, and Flower Seeds, Horticultural Implements, and Garden Requisites.

Would inform their friends and the public that the *Sixteenth Annual Edition* of their *Illustrated Seed Catalogue and Guide* to the **Flower and Kitchen Garden** is now ready for distribution.

No pains or expense have been spared in preparing this edition, to make it the most complete work of the kind ever published in this country.

It contains 120 pages of closely printed matter, and two hundred choice engravings of favorite Flowers and Vegetables—a large portion of which are entirely new; also, two beautifully colored lithographs, and a descriptive list of upwards of two thousand species and varieties of *Flower and Vegetable Seeds*, including all the novelties of the past season, with directions for their culture; also, a list of upwards of One Hundred varieties of *Choice Horticultural Implements*—with many other Summer-Flowering Bulbs—and much useful information upon the subject of gardening generally.

A copy will be mailed to all applicants enclosing *Twenty-five cents*. Our regular customers supplied without charge. We also publish an edition handsomely bound in cloth at 50 cents per copy.

Benjamin, John, Almira, Mattie, Jane, Ketura, Eliza, Adline and Mary.

This is a brief account of only one of the sons, James W. Yates, and his family. James W. Yates was married twice. His first wife was Martha J. Talkington whom he married on Sept. 14, 1841. She was the daughter of the Rev. Isaac Talkington of Cane Hill, Ark. She was born Jan. 25, 1818, place unknown, and died on Nov. 3, 1851, in Cane Hill Township.

James and Martha Talkington Yates lived about a half mile west of the present community of Clyde, Ark. on a farm that old timers will remember as the Tom Kirby farm. The Paul Cliffords live there now.

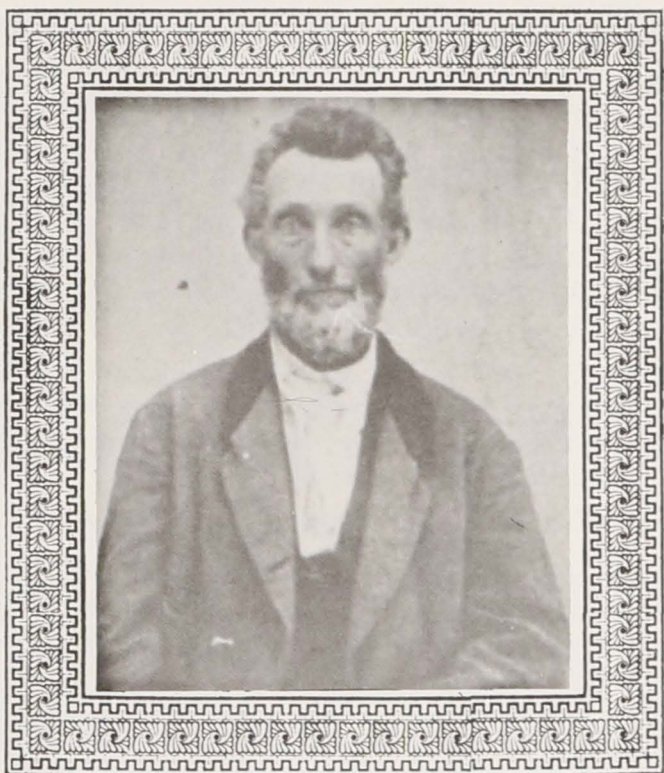
Children of James W. and Martha J. Talkington Yates:

- i. Almira (Allie) E., b. July 13, 1842; married Hannible Moore Apr. 5, 1860; d. Oct. 31, 1899.
- ii. Berkeley C., b. Feb. 11, 1844; d. Mar. 27, 1845.
- iii. Elizabeth Evelyn (Eliza) b. Jan. 15, 1847; married Samuel Pylant Russell Mar. 7, 1867; d. Jan. 20, 1908.
- iv. Helen, b. Mar. 18, 1849; married David N. Moore Oct. 24, 1872; d. _____.
- v. Sarah Jennie, b. June 12, 1851; married Allan Beller Sept. 6, 1871; d. Jan. 28, 1878.

James W. Yates married his second wife, Milanda Russell, on Feb. 15, 1855. She was the daughter of George Russell, who died, and she was reared by his brother, James B. Russell. The Rev. James Pulaski Russell was Malinda's brother. Malinda was born Nov. 4, 1836 and died in 1927.

Children of James W. and Malinda Russell Yates:

- i. George Pulaski, b. July 15, 1856; married Elizabeth Hagood; d. _____.
- ii. Mary Alta, b. June 15, 1858; married J. Wesley Kirkland Apr. 22, 1880; d. _____.
- iii. L. Annie, b. May 7, 1860; married Norris Leach Aug. 13, 1882; d. _____.



JAMES W. YATES, 1815 - 1882

by Lacy P. McColloch

James W. Yates was born Feb. 15, 1815, in East Tennessee. He was one of fifteen children born to Nicholas and Sarah Hays Yates. So far as is known they lived in Green County, Tenn. In 1818, James W. Hays, father of Sarah Hays Yates, was living in Jefferson County, Tenn. Green County was a short distance to the east of Jefferson County but the two counties did not join.

In 1834 the Nicholas Yates family moved to Cane Hill, Arkansas Territory. It is not known just where they located.

The children of Nicholas and Sarah Hays Yates were: Richard, Nicholas, Jr., Joseph, James W., William, Louis,

1840 ~ 1862

WINDOW ON THE FRONTIER

The Early Newspapers of Washington County, Arkansas
by **Kim Allen Scott**

To continue with Mr. Scott's thesis, we are presenting his third chapter. Once again, it is most interesting and informative. We invite you to read on.

Chapter III - The Witness

In 1840, the town of Fayetteville was all of twelve years old, having grown from a cluster of log huts at the west base of Mount Sequoyah to a frontier metropolis of 425 people. The city was originally settled by traders from towns on the western border of Washington County, Arkansas, who migrated east when the area was opened for settlement in 1828.¹ There was a high degree of literacy among these early residents: more than 97 percent of whites above the age of 20 could read and write.² The value they placed on education was demonstrated by the presence of the Fayetteville Female Academy, a school chartered in 1837. In this commitment to scholarship, Fayetteville was like Washington County's other major town, Cane Hill, which established an institution of higher learning during the same decade.

Even though Fayetteville was the center of Washington County's government and commerce, it was an isolated community, connected to the rest of the state by a series of winding, torturous roads to the south and west. Goods from the east had an easy route only as far as Van Buren on the Arkansas River. From that port, freight had to be shipped by wagon through the Boston Mountains sixty-five miles to Fayetteville. Regular mail service was an ideal not often reached under these conditions. Newspapers from Little Rock, the closest town with a printing office,

could only be as up-to-date as the mail, and during the election year of 1840, the trickle of timely information was a problem keenly felt.

William Henry Harrison and the Whig party staged an intensive presidential campaign that year. "Old Tip," with his log cabin and hard cider, became a symbol the Democrats found hard to combat. In Arkansas, members of the party were especially concerned about Whig sentiments in the back country. David Walker, a Whig lawyer from Fayetteville, was stumping hard for a seat in the state senate and his chances looked better than good. One of the Democratic party's faithful was Charles F. Town, a printer in Little Rock.³ He became convinced that a Democratic paper in the town of Fayetteville would be in his party's best interest. Armed with a subscription list of Washington County Democrats who might be prepared to pay for his newspaper, Town traveled from Little Rock to Fayetteville in the spring of 1840 to begin the enterprise.⁴

Town's first order of business was the printing and distribution of a prospectus to his adopted community. He admitted the political bias of his proposed newspaper but also expressed the conviction that no liberal-minded man of the opposition would object to the course he chose to pursue:

No one accustomed to observe the growth of states, and the advancement of a country, will deny that a well conducted newspaper as effectually represents a particular section of the country to the political, commercial, and literary world as an elected representative in a legislative body does his constituents.⁵

Town persuaded postmasters in Cane Hill and other offices around Washington County to act as his sales and collection agents and gained the valuable assistance of the *Arkansas Gazette* to sell subscriptions in the Little Rock area. On May 9, 1840, the first issue of the *Witness* was issued from Town's new office in Fayetteville.⁶

Scattered hints found in public records and the columns

of the newspaper provide a brief outline of the publisher's business arrangements. The office was located near the square, but what equipment it contained and the size of its staff cannot be determined. Town boarded with another bachelor who probably worked for the *Witness*,⁷ and there is evidence that at least four men were employed at one point.⁸ That Town himself took on the labors of the composing stick as well as the pen is likely, but it cannot be established with certainty. The press was probably a hand-lever model, for even if the infant enterprise had been able to afford one of the new rotary presses available at the time, the small press run would hardly have justified its purchase.

No issues of the *Witness* published during the crucial pre-election months of 1840 have survived. No doubt Town pushed his party's candidates within the columns of the paper and was disappointed when David Walker captured the state senate seat for the Whigs and William Henry Harrison was elected President. The editor's disappointment would be augmented by the realization that his federal printing business was in jeopardy due to the new party occupying the White House.

Like all pioneer editors, Town was constantly concerned with his financial situation.⁹ Many of his subscribers and job work customers were delinquent in payment, and in the January 2, 1841, issue, the beleaguered newspaperman announced:

All persons indebted to this office for job work, advertising, or subscriptions are respectfully requested to make payment. Our creditors are pressing us for money, and we must in turn call upon those indebted to us in order to meet their demands.¹⁰

To drive the point home, Town let the dun notice stand until the February 13 issue, when he reckoned "those indebted to us have had time to get it by heart."¹¹

The *Witness* was typical of the pioneer newspapers examined by William Lyon and Rhoda Ellison in that it mir-

rored the community's values and concerns even while ignoring much of what modern historians consider significant concerning the day-to-day happenings of the paper's bailiwick.¹² By busily employing his scissors to columns from exchange newspapers, Editor Town presented his readers with a wide selection of stories reflecting the interests of himself and the settlers of Washington County. Local events rarely found their way into the *Witness*' columns, but the newspaper constantly reported on the progress of the Democratic party in Little Rock and Washington, D.C.

By reprinting articles on another subject clipped from eastern journals, Town's newspaper effectively mirrored another concern of Fayettevillians in the 1840's. The temperance movement was a simplistic solution to a complex social problem in the early nineteenth century. The heavy consumption of alcohol among Americans of all ages convinced reformers that the only answer could be found by people taking a solemn pledge of total abstinence, buttressed by periodic public gatherings to reaffirm the promise and exhort tipplers to do the same. The movement began in New England in the 1820's and spread throughout the country in the following decades. The teetotalling spirit hit Fayetteville shortly after Town had established the *Witness*, and the editor embraced the movement as passionately as he espoused the platform of the Democratic party. Every surviving issue of the *Witness* reports on the progress of the temperance movement in locales as diverse as Ireland, London, Boston, and Philadelphia.¹³ Local meetings of the Fayetteville Temperance Society received some publicity as well, a noticeable exception to the newspaper's emphasis on events outside Washington County.

Evidence suggests that as many as three quarters of the adult population of Fayetteville in 1841 was swept up in the movement, and Town not only took the pledge himself, but actively participated in chastising backsliders as well.¹⁴ Other crusaders rewarded the editor's zeal by advertising in his newspaper,¹⁵ but not in sufficient

numbers to allow the struggling *Witness* to turn away business from the unreformed. John H. Newsman cheerfully invited customers to his tavern in Ozark on the back page of the newspaper while the front page mourned over a Boston woman who fell off the wagon to her ruin.¹⁶

The generous intentions of advertisers were not enough to support the *Witness*, however. An evaluation of the February 6, 1841, issue shows more than one third of the newspaper's potential income was derived from legal notices from Washington, Johnson, and Carroll Counties.¹⁷ Fees received for publishing the laws of the federal government are unknown, but doubtless the combined income from public printing dwarfed that from private advertisers.

The problem with the *Witness's* advertising income was that it was offered to merchants on credit. Newspapers at this time extended credit to extraordinary lengths, using the threat of automatic renewals for non-paying subscribers and advertisers in an attempt to force them to pay before the debt grew any larger.¹⁸ In 1841, some Arkansas editors adopted a cash system for their businesses, but without a cohesive statewide editorial organization, cooperation on the issue was doomed from the start. The *Arkansas Gazette* announced in January that no further advertisements or subscriptions would be accepted without advance payment.¹⁹ Town was more cautious. If he insisted on cash in advance for subscriptions, he might never add to his miniscule list of patrons. Instead, he decided to use the cash system for advertisements but continued to appeal to delinquent subscribers through supplicatory notices in his columns. In April, 1841, he reported with tongue in cheek that the newly elected president would not appoint any man to office unless he paid for his newspaper in advance. In the same issue, Town bluntly announced that he had received a number of advertisements that he refused to print unless paid for in cash.²⁰ Town also expressed his frustration with tardy payments and trying to meet his payroll when he

published this telling paragraph from an unidentified "exchange paper":

AN EDITOR HARD RUN — A western editor advertises for two journeymen and two devils; none need apply, unless they can afford to work for nothing and treat him to boot. He says that the times are so hard he can't afford to make a more liberal offer.²¹

Among the factors that contributed to Town's financial concerns was the impending loss of the federal government printing. The *Arkansas Gazette* was cut off in June of 1841 for their Democratic partisanship, and the *Witness* probably suffered the blow then as well.²²

In spite of his protestations, Town had prospered modestly. The Washington County Tax Records for 1841 shows the editor paid taxes on a town lot and horse, a combined worth of \$600.00.²³ Apparently he felt secure enough to marry as well. The object of his affections was Annabelle Ball, sister to one of Fayetteville's wealthiest lawyers, William McKnight Ball. Ball had represented Washington County in the state legislature during the 1830's, had helped found the Fayetteville Female Academy in 1836, and was a charter member in the local Masonic Lodge, a vice president of the Temperance Society, and cashier of the Fayetteville Branch of the Arkansas State Bank. He was enormously influential, and his favorable disposition towards Town is evidenced by his continuous advertising support of the *Witness* from its first issue. Ball's thoughts on the courtship between his sister and Charles Town were not recorded, perhaps because a local scandal interrupted the wooing.

On Sunday night, April 25, 1841, the Fayetteville bank was burglarized and four account books taken. This happened just before an investigation of the bank's management by auditors dispatched by Governor Archibald Yell in Little Rock. Two of the books were recovered, one fished out of the White River and another found in a feed pile of an abandoned Fayetteville horse stable.²⁴ Cashier Ball

placed an advertisement in the *Witness* on May 1, 1841, offering a \$500 reward for the apprehension of the thief, but it did not prevent suspicions against himself when the auditors found the bank short a considerable sum of money.

Charles F. Town and Annabelle Ball were married on June 9, 1841,²⁵ but the accusations against the editor's new brother-in-law continued to mount. State Senator David Walker, whose father had been president of the bank, was among the faction charging Ball with misconduct. With his writing and influence with Arkansas's Whig press, Walker would prove to be a formidable enemy to the *Witness*. To make matters worse, Town found himself having to defend Ball's reputation during a time when the vital supply of paper to the *Witness* was interrupted. A drought had made the Arkansas River impassable and newsprint was available from no other route.²⁶ Ball did nothing to help squelch the incriminations by his actions in the fall of 1841. In October, he quietly sold his property on the town square, his shares in the bank, and fourteen slaves.²⁷ He and his family left town shortly thereafter, headed for the Republic of Texas.

The *Witness*' final months in Fayetteville saw a steady decline in its editor's fortunes. David Walker transferred what legal notice printing he could to the *Batesville News*, a Whig paper, and attacked Ball through that organ and the *Arkansas Gazette*. Town responded as best he could, but his position was understandably unpopular. Walker blasted his feeble attempts, labelling the *Witness* "a filthy conduit,"²⁹ while Town was forced to reduce the size of his struggling paper to a half sheet. Even the *Arkansas Gazette*, a Democratic paper, mildly rebuked *Witness* over its handling of the Ball affair. The *Batesville News* was less charitable and openly accused Town of having benefited from the embezzlement.³⁰

Charles F. Town gave up the struggle and on April 30, 1842, printed his farewell address to his patrons in the final issue of the *Witness*.³¹ It speaks well of the pioneer editor

that he continued to publish the sheet for nearly the full length of his subscription and advertising contracts. In other matters, Town did not appear so scrupulous.

Town's means of support after his newspaper folded are not clear. He shared his inactive office with Bryan H. Smithson, a Fayetteville attorney, during the fall of 1842 and may have been preparing for the bar himself. That he expected some continued income in Fayetteville is demonstrated by his purchase of a house and two town lots on August 20.³² Perhaps he expected to collect on the many outstanding debts owed the *Witness*, for he borrowed 85 dollars from tavern-keeper James Byrnside on October 16, using his slave girl, Amanda, as collateral and promising to pay in six months after an expected judgment against Fayetteville merchant Alfred Wallace.³³ In any event, his printing equipment sat idle and during his absence of one week in November, Smithson sold the press and type to Onesimus Evans, former Fayetteville postmaster. Evans never removed the equipment from the office, which proved to be his mistake, for when Town returned to Fayetteville he collected the money from Smithson but refused to give up the press to Evans when he called for it. Even though Evans sued for possession, Town successfully defended ownership of the printing equipment through technicalities involving the legal principle of replevin in two appearances before the Arkansas State Supreme Court.³⁴

If Town was hopeful that his debtors would be forced to pay during the Washington County Court session in the spring of 1843, he was sorely disappointed. Alfred Wallace convinced the court that he did not owe Town "one cent,"³⁵ and the former editor found himself being sued for bad debts as a co-defendant with his absent brother-in-law, William McKnight Ball.³⁶ This proved to be too much for Town and he decided to leave Fayetteville himself. His loan from the bank, with which he financed his house purchase, was due on October 5, 1843, but Town was out of money as well as time. On that day he mortgaged the

house and lots, and with his wife Annabelle, left Arkansas for good. It was an ironic twist that he had chosen David Walker with whom to transact this final business.³⁷

It is not known where the Towns went, but it is unlikely they joined William McKnight Ball in Leon County, Texas.³⁸ Annabelle Town and a six year old daughter appear on the 1850 Delaware census as residing in Mill Township with an elderly farmer, but whatever happened to the former editor, and his printing press, remains a mystery.³⁹

NOTES

¹Bruce Francis Pilcher, "The Settlement Geography of Prairie Township, Washington County, Arkansas," thesis, University of Arkansas, 1975, pg. 28-29.

²National Archives Microfilm Publications, *Population Schedules of the Sixth Census of the United States, 1840*, Arkansas, Washington County, p. 287. The census shows an adult white population of 157 with only 4 that could not read or write.

³*Arkansas Gazette*, May 27, 1840. In giving notice of Town's new paper, the *Gazette* referred to him as "from this place."

⁴*Witness*, April 17, 1841.

⁵*Ibid.*, February 6, 1841.

⁶The date has been determined by existing issue numeration.

⁷*Sixth Census of the United States, 1840*, Arkansas, Washington County, p. 286.

⁸*Witness*, February 13, 1841. Town reported that at a local temperance meeting, four printers took the pledge. Town's establishment was the only printing office in northwest Arkansas at that time.

⁹Lyon, *Pioneer Editor*, p. 88; Ellison, "Newspaper Publishing," p. 292.

¹⁰*Witness*, February 6, 1841. The notice was dated January 2, 1841.

¹¹*Ibid.*, February 13, 1841.

¹²Lyon, *Pioneer Editor*, pg. 42-43; Ellison, "Newspaper Publishing," p. 300.

¹³*Witness*, February 6, February 13, March 6, March 27, 1841.

¹⁴"Constitution and Proceedings of the Fayetteville Temperance Society, 1841-44," Austin L. Venable ed., *Arkansas Historical Quarterly* 3, (1944): p. 170. A number of inconsistencies in this edited document have led me to question some of the information on page 170. The date of the first meeting is given as April 25, 1841, but the *Witness* stressed in its April 23 issue that the meeting would take place on the 28th of April. The edited document gives the name William M.R. Ball for William McKnight Ball, and also refers to a man named C.F. Brown. No such person is listed in the 1840 census, but C.F. Town was the common rendering of the editor's name in all existing documents, including the 1840 census.

¹⁵*Witness*, February 6, 1841. R.P. Pulliam, watchmaker and secretary to the Fayetteville Temperance Society, ran a continuous ad in Town's newspaper.

¹⁶*Ibid.*, March 6, 1841.

¹⁷*Ibid.*, February 6, 1841. All advertising was measured and estimated in accordance to the terms printed next to the masthead. The advertisements are coded as original insertions or repeats, and the county legal notices are priced for public inspection.

¹⁸Lyon, *Pioneer Editor*, p. 89; Ellison, "Newspaper Publishing," p. 293.

¹⁹Margaret Ross, *Arkansas Gazette: The Early Years 1819-1860*, (Little Rock: Arkansas Gazette Foundation, 1969), p. 177.

²⁰*Witness*, April 20, 1841.

²¹*Ibid.*, March 27, 1841.

²²Ross, *Arkansas Gazette*. p. 178.

²³Washington County Tax Records, April 29, 1842.

²⁴Witness, May 1, 1841.

²⁵*Arkansas Gazette*, June 9, 1841.

²⁶In the June 9, 1841, issue, the *Arkansas Gazette* reported that the lowness of the river had delayed the arrival of newsprint and apologized for having to publish on a half sheet.

²⁷Washington County Deed Book D, p. 50, 53.

²⁸The *Batesville News* was receiving legal notice printing from Washington County as early as September 21, 1840. David Walker's name appears in every one.

²⁹*Arkansas Gazette*, November 17, 1841. The letter by David Walker was reprinted from the *Batesville News*.

³⁰*Arkansas Gazette*, December 8, 1841; *Batesville News*, July 29, 1841.

³¹*Arkansas Gazette*, May 18, 1842.

³²Washington County Deed Book D, p. 304.

³³Washington County Miscellaneous Records Book, pg. 44-45.

³⁴*Town vs. Evans*, *Arkansas Reports* 6: 260, Arkansas Supreme Court, 1845: *Town vs. Evans*, *Arkansas Reports* 11: 1, Arkansas Supreme Court, 1850. The legal jargon in this case citation is impossible for the layman to comprehend. I am indebted to Fayetteville attorney Larry Forelich for taking a few moments to explain it to me.

³⁵Washington County Circuit Court Book E, p. 113.

³⁶*Ibid.*, 160.

³⁷Washington County Deed Book D, p. 492.

³⁸Marion Day Mullins, ed., *Republic of Texas: Poll Lists for 1846*, (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1974), p.8.

³⁹National Archives Microfilm Publications, *Population Schedules for the Seventh Census of the United States*, Delaware, New Castle County, p. 381.

RURAL DIRECTORY OF WASHINGTON COUNTY

A Cordial Invitation is extended you to visit
this store---everytime you are in Fayetteville.

Our prices and better grade of merchandise will make
your visit profitable--if on a shopping tour.

Use our Cool Rest Rooms.

We have ice water, telephones, stationery, magazines,
and a play room for the Kiddies at your disposal.

Make this your home store--let our mail order department
shop for you for anything anytime.

C.C. Yarrington Co.
THE NEW MODEL

FAYETTEVILLE, ARKANSAS

THE CURTIS CONGREGATION

by Lloyd McConnell

This record of Benjamin Browning Curtis and Elizabeth Short is intended to acquaint his descendants with his family record and the coming to Washington County of the Curtis people.

The 1850 census of Washington County indicates that he was born in Georgia, but his daughter, who married John Wesley Holcomb, said her mother told her Benjamin was born in Alabama. He may have been the son of another Benjamin B. Curtis who reportedly loaned or sold some ships to the United States for use in the War of 1812, and for which he was never paid. What a windfall for the Curtis descendants should this prove to be true — enough to unbalance the National Budget.

Benjamin Browning Curtis was born on March 15, 1801. He shows up next in Jackson County, Tennessee, where, on January 14, 1829, he married Elizabeth Short, a daughter of Joel F. and Nancy Short. He would have been 27 years of age. Cousin Effie Holcomb Hesselrode, a granddaughter, tells us that a small boy accompanied the couple then to Illinois and to Washington County about 1832. The lad knew that Elizabeth Short was not his mother but he loved and respected her. The young lad, named John Curtis, was a son of Benjamin by a former marriage. He went later to Texas and California and sent back money to pay taxes on his father's home. He was reported to have children in or near Weatherford, Texas, one named Carl, and one crippled by lightning.

After their marriage Benjamin and Elizabeth Short moved to Illinois, where on November 17, 1829, a son James Washington Curtis was born. Another son, William Jackson Curtis followed on October 20, 1831. The next child, Franklin Farris Curtis was born near West Fork in Washington County, Arkansas on December 3, 1833. Mary Catherine, a daughter, was born on December 30, 1835, and Joel White Curtis on March 15, 1838. Elizabeth

Jane Curtis on August 10, 1840, and Benjamin Marion Curtis came on January 16, 1843. Martha Marzee Curtis came on November 16, 1845 and Martin Lafayette on January 23, 1849, Madison Monroe Curtis was born on October 30, 1851, and the last child Robert Graham Curtis on October 20, 1854.

Family planning as it is known today was not a problem in the early days of the County. Family planning consisted mostly of getting food on the table, using wild meat, native grown berries and garden vegetables. Skins from wild animals were made into shoes, caps, powder bags, and bullet pouches.

Benjamin B. Curtis was probably red or sandy haired, with freckles and blue eyes, because this characteristic has shown up many times among his descendants. He may have also been a pretty good scrapper because legend tells us he often made a circle in the dirt with the toe of his shoe and dared anyone in the crowd to step into it with him — not a mad fight, just a friendly encounter to see who was the best man. My Dad always told me never to get into it with a red haired, white eye-browed, freckled face guy, especially if he pulled at his earlobe while talking to me — I might get hurt!

Elizabeth Short Curtis became blind in later years. Her son Willie Jackson was good to take care of her, leading her to the outside john, or placing a chair on the front porch for her to sit in. Children and grandchildren gathered around her playing games, and finding little trinkets for her to identify, like gravel, marbles, nuts, baby kittens, etc. Sometimes they tried to fool her by handing her the same kitten twice, but she knew each one of them by name.

Tragedy struck the Curtis family early. Joel White Curtis lived only a couple of years. Again during the Civil War, on August 18, 1864, a band of horsemen rode up to the gate where their oldest son was cleaning his gun. They halloosed at the front gate and Curtis opened the door and

stepped out. He was greeted by gunshots and fell back into the room. The horsemen rode away. Mary Jane Moore Curtis, in bed with a small son, dragged her husband back into the room and went for help among her neighbors.

Franklin Farris Curtis, the third son, found a Karnes family living along the road south of where West Fork is located and Narcissa Jane Karnes became Narcissa Jane Curtis. They were married in 1858. Narcissa Jane was a daughter of Andrew Karnes and Elizabeth Howry. Franklin and Narcissa Jane raised several children, naming them George Andrew, Benjamin, Edmonia Elizabeth, Mary Sidney, John Sherman, Florance Allie, Robert Graham, and Eliza, shortened from Elizabeth. An unnamed infant who did not live also.

Franklin Farris Curtis became a school teacher, and his school record of 1869-1870 shows several children in his school. He later became a Minister and the county records indicate a large number of the area people joined in matrimony by him. He also acquired a considerable acreage of land, south of West Fork and built a large home near a big spring. The marriage of Franklin F. Curtis and Narcissa Jane Karnes created a kinship between the Curtis-Karnes family.

Mary Catherine Curtis, first daughter of Benjamin Browning and Elizabeth Short, became the bride of Bayless Earl Rutherford, and this couple lived along the upper Illinois River near what is called Hogeye. The old home where the couple raised their fifteen children still stands in the fields now owned by the Cates people. Mary Catherine and Bayless Rutherford named their offspring Elizabeth Chelly Rutherford, William B. Roberson Rutherford, Bayless Curtis Rutherford, Robert Graham Rutherford, Samuel Campbell Rutherford. Mary Ellen Rutherford, Louisa Dye Rutherford, Dudley Graham Rutherford, Hattie White Rutherford, and Monroe Rutherford.

Now what school teacher is going to stand up and chalk off those names — they were promptly shortened to Jim,



Seated — Front Row

1. Lloyd Stockburger
2. Ivan Curtis
3. Jeff Curtis
4. Verna Stockburger
5. Clara McConnell
6. Ercell Curtis

Second Row

7. Eliza Curtis
8. Verna Curtis
9. Ada Curtis
10. Larama Curtis

11. Mary Sidney Stockburger
12. Calvin Stockburger (standing)
13. Narciss Karnes Curtis
(grandmother)
14. Mrs. J.L. McConnell
(Edmona) (Lloyd's mother)
15. Paul Curtis
- 15½. Effie Stockburger Curtis
16. Leah Curtis (born Feb. 1912).
17. Frank Curtis (with head
against his mother, Effie).



Photograph taken in late summer, 1912.

18. Lola Curtis

Third Row

19. Troy Stockburger

20. White Curtis

21. Jewell Curtis

22. Mamie Stockburger

23. Gladys Curtis

25. Ed Stockburger

26. Bryan Curtis

27. Sherman Curtis

28. Robert (Bob) Curtis

29. Oscar Curtis

30. George Curtis

31. George Stockburger

Back Row

24. J.L. McConnell (Lloyd's Father)

Bayless, Bob, Noah, Bud, Dud, Sam, Monroe, Cal, Liz, Martha Jane, and Ellen, and I don't know what else.

Elizabeth Jane Curtis, the next daughter of Benjamin Browning Curtis and Elizabeth Short married Nelson Mallicoat, a civil war veteran, who lived north of Hogeys. This couple moved to Prairie Grove where Nelson became the postmaster.

Benjamin Marion Curtis went over to the Strickler community for one of the Strickler girls, whose family had settled early along the old wire road. This couple, married in 1865, added to the population of south Washington County, naming their children, James Washington, Adolphus Marion, Mary Prisilla, William Henry, Jeanette Evelyn, called Nettie, Benjamin Franklin, Nelson Jacob, called Nels, Malinda Elizabeth, Eliza Ester, John Elza and Mattie Jeanne.

Benjamin Marion Curtis studied his Bible and also became a preacher. County records disclose a large number of marriages performed by him. After the death of his father, the old home place was sold under a mortgage and was purchased by his brother Franklin F. Curtis, who with the mother deeded the farm to Benjamin Marion. Later when Benjamin Marion was offered a job as assistant postmaster at Prairie Grove under his brother-in-law, his blind mother refused to go. She took a seat on the front porch and sat there while the loaded wagon drove away. The folks thought she would call after them but she didn't — her neighbors found her sitting there later in the day and took her home with them.

Martha Marzee Curtis married John Wesley Holcomb, a neighbor living farther out on the old Strickler road. John's family owned a considerable acreage of mountain land, and made available a site for a school, called Holcomb School, and which still stands beside the paved road. John Wesley Holcomb himself was a preacher, and later his daughter Effie Mae also became a Minister and married another Minister — guess that is why this booklet had to be called the Curtis Congregation. Oh, yes,

another descendant, Dr. Maurice Ray, regularly holds services at the West Fork Church.

Martha Marzee and John Wesley named the Holcomb children Stonewall Jackson, Walter Monroe, Serilda Snowbell, Mary Elizabeth, William Benjamin, Grover Cleveland, and Effie Mae. After Effie Mae was married the couple moved to West Fork and held services in the old saw mill when they could not get the local churches to let them have a room. They lived near the school, and young students often came across the fence to get a cool drink of lemonade or a cookie, and the preaching couple would tell them bible stories.

Once, a teacher told the pupils not to go over there anymore and one girl disobeyed. For punishment the teacher had the pupil give a prayer in class. The young girl gave such a beautiful prayer the teacher patted her on the shoulder and said she would not punish her anymore.

Martin Lafayette Curtis married a Wilhite girl, a neighbor and they had a daughter named Ora. Martin died July 14, 1888 of typhoid.

Madison Monroe Curtis next son of Benjamin Browning and Elizabeth Short Curtis, died August 18, 1866. He was buried in Holcomb Cemetery, across the road and down the hill from the old Holcomb school house.

Robert Graham Curtis, last son of Benjamin Browning and Elizabeth Short, became a resident of Fort Smith and worked most of his life in the furniture factory business. He owned a farm north of Van Buren, and in the Dripping Springs area, where he was buried in 1939, at 83 years. He had a son named Carl who also lived in Fort Smith. Cousin Effie Hesselrode often told me she visited as a child in the Fort Smith home and much of the history came down from her. She died in 1979. She was 93 years of age. She wrote many letters telling how it was in the early days.

Benjamin Browning Curtis was not a wealthy man. He homesteaded a few acres west of Greenland and east of the Hogeye road. He purchased other lands and gave a mor-

mortgage in 1856 to Stirman & Dickson for \$200. The mortgage also included sheep, hogs, harness, wagons, furniture, feather beds and a saddle. In October of that year he borrowed \$220 from C.L. Harrison, mortgaging lands where the old Manilla schoolhouse is built, and appointed J.J. Tankersley to sell his property if the debts were not paid when due. The land was sold to pay his debts, and his brother Frank Farris Curtis, a minister, purchased the land for his widowed mother and a son to live on.

A few years ago I found the foundation of the old Curtis home in a field belonging to a widow, land whose husband had purchased it for a home. Around the old foundation were many iris plants, old roses, still blooming and other flowers. It is in a field off the pavement.

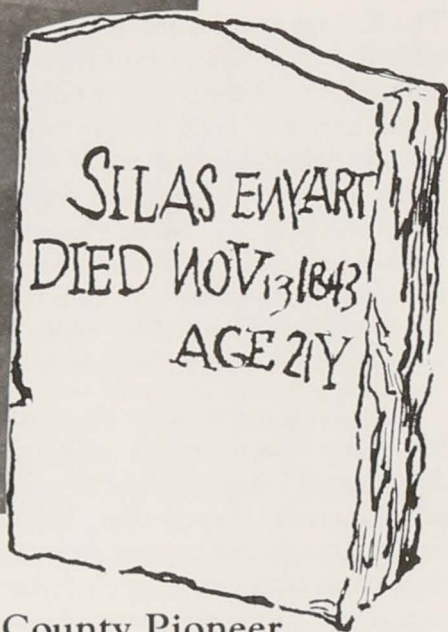


HONORS TO THE DEAD

Raymond E. Jefferies found this answer to a "McCurdy" question that has eluded the family for a long time. What was the first name of the young McCurdy who was among the earliest to give his life for the Confederate cause? The paragraph came from "The War Bulletin", a paper printed in Fayetteville, Confederate States of America, on February 4, 1862, a copy of which is now in the Special Collections at U. of A. in Fayetteville.

On Sunday last, 9th instant, the remains of Capt. S.R. Bell, Serg't Wm. Brown, and Privates Samuel McCurdy and Henry Fullbright, having been brought here (their late home) from Oak Hills, where they gave their lives to their country, were interred in Mount Comfort Cemetery, three miles from Fayetteville. The remains were escorted from town by the Masonic fraternity, of which Capt. Bell was a member, and the Companies of Cpts. Brusle and Viglini, together with a large number of citizens assembled showed the esteem in which the deceased patriots had been held by their fellow-citizens of Washington County.





JOHN ENYART, Early Washington County Pioneer

by Robert G. Winn

The name Enyart, like many other pioneer names in Washington Co. AR, no longer appears in telephone directories, on tax rolls, nor census records in 1988. Before the Civil War the name was listed among the most prominent of Washington County families. An original land patent signed by President Martin Van Buren, now in the possession of Hugh Jett of Fayetteville, great grandson of John Enyart, dated September 20, 1839, granted 40 acres of land to John Enyart. Another such grant was signed by President James A. Polk. In all, John Enyart was reported to own some two thousand acres of land beside White River at Oxford Bend; near Highway 45 bridge across White River; between Fayetteville and Goshen.

John Enyart was a prosperous farmer who owned some 22 slaves. He raised fine horses that he drove overland to New Orleans and returned on horseback, alone, carrying in his saddle bags the gold received from the sale of his horses. While her husband was away, Nancy, his wife, managed the estate with the help of their trusted slaves.

The Enyart slaves were so well treated by their master that after the Civil War, when they were free to leave, they remained on the farm continuing to live in contentment as before the war. John Enyart bought enough slaves to tend his vast holdings, but never sold a slave. Stories handed down tell that when slave traders, who were numerous, came through the country buying slaves to sell in centers of industry or to plantation owners in the delta country, Enyart's slaves plead with him not to sell them. They were always assured that their master would not put them up for sale, as he considered them to be a part of his family.

Very likely some of the slaves came to Enyart as a part of his wife's dowry. John's wife was Nancy Ann Trammel, daughter of Garrard and Polly Foster Trammel. A recorded document shows that Nancy's grandfather George Foster, transferred certain slaves to his daughter, Polly. We thus conclude that Nancy's father transferred title to certain slaves to his daughter when she married.

Because the Enyarts were Southern sympathizers, the Civil War years were especially difficult for the family. Much of the time, the husband was away delivering horses to Southern armies. At one time, the wife and children had no food except milk from their one cow. A contingent of Federal troops bivouacked near the Enyart farm, took the cow. Mrs. Enyart, small of frame but bold of spirit, went to the Federal captain and told him his men had taken her cow. She let him know how desperately the milk was needed for the children. The captain saw that his men returned the animal.

John Enyart was not only a Southern sympathizer; he supported the effort financially. Records show that during the conflict he bought numerous Confederate bonds, which after the war, proved worthless. Like most families in northwest Arkansas, this family went through most difficult times following the war. In 1866, Enyart served in the Arkansas legislature until March 23, 1867. He was one of those progressive citizens who helped organize the first Washington County Fair.

John Enyart died in 1879 at home near Oxford Bend. Nobody knows the exact location of his grave. Reliable information indicates that he was buried near where he had lived. A gravestone discovered by a farmer plowing in 1968 bears the hand carved inscription, "Silas Enyart, died Nov. 13, 1843, age 21 years." It is believed that John carved this stone and buried his younger brother on the family's farm. The stone, given to Mrs. Mildred Jett Waggoner of Fayetteville, is now in the Headquarters House office of the Washington County Historical Society. Very likely John was buried near his brother; but nobody remained to carve a stone to mark John's grave. Records show John was born in Madison Co., May 9, 1811, d. Sept. 15, 1879, in Washington Co., AR. Information on the book, "The Enyart Family 1625-1975" by Lorence M. Enyard 1976 states, "John is believed buried on this farm in the Enyart cemetery where his brother, Silas, and his (John's) two older children were buried near Oxford Bend." If this is true, the stone unearthed in 1968 indicates the location of the Enyart farm. Today no evidence of an Enyart cemetery remains. Apparently only the graves mentioned above comprised the cemetery.

John's wife, Nancy Ann Trammel, b. May 2, 1818, d. Feb. 17, 1900, spent her last years with her daughter, Sarah Louise (Lou) and her husband, John Jett, in the Cherry Grove community, west of Brentwood, Ark. She is buried in the Woolsey cemetery where her grave is marked with a native field stone — as was the custom. Sarah Louise and John Jett both died in 1935; they are buried in the Brentwood Cemetery. It was during these later years that Lou told many stories of her earlier life around Oxford Bend, which were remembered by her grandchildren and handed down to the present.

Among the stories were those of John Enyart driving his fine horses overland from the Ozarks to New Orleans; the dangers he faced along the way; how he returned with gold in his saddle bags — and his wife worrying about him during his absences. Roads were through sparsely settled

country where travelers had to spend many nights in homes of complete strangers. Most settlers were delighted to share their cabins with these travellers who brought new of the outside world. Other residents were apt to be people who settled in remote areas to escape from some previous unsavory crime. Mr. Enyart told of one such episode when he stayed in a one room cabin with a suspiciously acting couple. All night their guest heard them whispering and feared they were plotting to kill him for his gold. He became so suspicious that he arose before daylight, saddled his horse and rode on without arousing his hosts.

Another time he sensed he was being followed — without positive evidence — but circumstances led him to believe such was the case. He camped alone in the forest and tried to sleep with his saddle for a pillow. His suspicion grew so strong that he finally arose and quietly left the camp site and whatever danger lurked in the darkness.

During his brief periods at home during the Civil War, he must have constantly been on the alert. Most people north of the Ozark Divide sympathized with the North, so his life was especially in danger because of his strong Southern loyalties.

No positive evidence has been found to link the Enyart family with the Oxfords for whom the bend in the river is named, but circumstantial evidence leads to the probability they were close friends. Mr. Glenn Oxford and Mrs. Linda Oxford tell that the Oxfords had a race track beside the White River directly south of the Highway 45 bridge over White River. This was a popular gathering place for horse races. John Enyart lived in the neighborhood and raised fine horses, this suggests his horses raced there.

We wish to acknowledge and thank Mrs. Mildred Jett Waggoner, her brother, Hugh Jett, of Fayetteville, AR. Mrs. Anna Jett Stone, Nevada City, CA, and the Oxfords mentioned above for their information in this account, and appreciation to Mrs. Waggoner for the use of the

book, "Enyart Family 1625-1975" by Lorence M. Enyart. Mildred and Hugh are daughter and son of Steven and Lottie Larson Jett; Steven was the son of John and Lou Enyert Jett. Anna Stone is the daughter of Ebben and Anna Fine Jett. Ebben was Steven's brother.

QUERIES

OUR APOLOGIES: The query in FLASHBACK August 1988 attributed to Dorothy Keck of Livermore, CA is not hers. If the person submitting it will let us know, we will re-run it later.

Carolyn Stafford Price, 6 Burrell, Apt. 1007, Houston, TX 77022 says "I have recently found the ROBBINS line in my family were residing there in about 1818. My grandfather was born there (Washington County). He was Henry C. Robbins. His father was George M. Robbins, b. 1792, KY, d. 1857, Williamson County, TX, m. Orry?"

Wilma West Miller (Mrs. Sherman Miller), 1490 Fremont Avenue, Los Altos, CA 94022 is still searching for information on FOWLER, HINES, HUMPHRIES, KENDRICK, MILHOLLAND, PHELAN, WALKER, WEST and WHITLEGE.

Wish to contact others who are researching McPETERS and FOWLER Families. Resided in Washington County the last half of the 1800's. Bill Duff, Duff Farms Route 2, Box 285 Mena, Arkansas 71953.

Margaret PHELAN writes to offer her assistance to anyone researching the PHELAN and SHELTON lines. Her address is 1651 Gillis Road, Othello, Washington 99344.

Are Jeremiah REMY, Owen REMY, Jeremiah Owen REMY, and Owne Jeremiah REMY one and the same person?? HELP!! Lucy M. Miller, 9445 Nichols St. Bellflower, CA 90706

SEVEN LADIES OF GOSHEN

by Lloyd O. Warren



Flashback 31(4):15, 1981, featured a photograph of "Six Ladies of Goshen", all in their later years of life and all representative of the first wave of settlers that moved into the area of Goshen. Some were born at or near Goshen, others accompanied parents into the area while quite young. The photograph was made around the turn of the century presumably at a picnic. Descendants of the families represented in the photo still live in the Goshen area and/or Washington County.

The community of Goshen for years had a tradition of holding annual reunions and picnics. Such events provided the opportunity for socializing, renewing friendships and sometimes resulted in liasons that resulted in marriage between swains from other communities and comely maidens of Goshen (the writer came from such a liason).

With improved communications and the organizing of competitive events at the larger population centers of Springdale and Fayetteville, the local picnics that characterized rural communities such as Goshen passed out of existence. These events provided entertainment and contact for several generations of the citizens of eastern Washington County, contributing materially to the maintenance of local culture and community spirit.

The photograph accompanying this brief narrative represents the second and third generation level of Goshenites attending a picnic in the 1920-25 period. The writer does not have biographical data on most of the ladies pictured. Perhaps there are members of WCHS that could amplify on the biography of one or more of the "Seven Ladies of Goshen".



Left to right: Mrs. Thrasher, wife of the Methodist minister serving the Goshen Methodist Church; Mrs. Sweeny, Fannie Dodson, Cener Oxford, Louisa Ellender (Lula) Gilliland Blake, Mrs. Nan Byrd (Lula and Nan were descendants of Rial Williams, a pioneer settler) and Sadie Clark. 1920-1925 period.



SOME RESEARCH GEMS

Courtesy of David R. Malone

Enclosed are a few items which I hope will be appropriate for Flashback. I ran across them while doing some other research but I thought your readers might find them interesting.

The List of Letters, Sale of Lots, and Cane Hill College matters were official notices or advertisements. The Internal Improvement Meeting article was a news item and the article on the subject of plank roads was apparently a letter to the editor.

The List of Letters was for letters remaining unclaimed at the post office at Fayetteville, Arkansas Territory. Other announcements were in the same issue of the Gazette for the post offices at Jackson, A.T.; Batesville; and the Hempstead C.H., A.T. The announcement for the Hempstead, Batesville and Jackson post offices indicated that the letters would be sent to the general post-office as dead letters if not taken out within three months.

The copies I had to work from were so poor I know they would not reproduce directly in your publication. This is the reason I transcribed them. I tried to give an accurate transcription.



LIST OF LETTERS

Remaining in the post office at Fayetteville, A.T., on the 1st day of January, 1835.

Allen, Wm.	Greer, Andrew, 2	Roarke, William M.
Barker, Thomas	Gilliland, Allen	Robinson, John
Bridges, Hiram, 2	Haralson Maj. Herndon	Rutherford, John
Butler, Charles	Harrison, Robt.	Ramsey, Josiah jun'r
Barns, Silas F.	Hart, Henry	Stevenson, Samuel
Cunningham, Jo.	Jones, B.N.	Stephens, Elisha, 2
Coates, Charles J.	James, John	Shaver, Jacob
Cowen, Wm. S.	Lane, Willis	Scott, Robt. H.
Collins, Dickson P.	Lynch, James	Sexton, Milton
Cowan, Robert C.	Luster, Fredrick	Sexton, Jacob
Cowan, Campbell G.	McJinnis, Abraham	Swagerty, Thomas
Dogget, James	Mathews, John	Whyte, James
Durham, John	Marrison, James B.	Whitenbargh, John
Dunkin, Tounsand J.	Marrs, Hugh	Williams, John
Dennis, Thomas	McFarland, Joab	Williams, David W.
Doke, Camel	Mussett, John	Wilson, John, jun'r
Estep, Eli C.	Null, Jacob	Wiatt, Mark
Fletcher, George, 2	Price, Richard	Whitten Bargh,
Fenly, Norris	Plumby —	John jr.

Farley, Robert H.	Reagon Col. John	Turner, John E.
Gibson, Andrew Jun.	Rodman, David	Vinson, Daniel
B.H. Smithson, Postmaster		

From: *Arkansas Gazette*, January 27, 1835, page 4, col. 2.



SALE OF LOTS IN THE TOWN OF FAYETTEVILLE.

Seat of Justice of Washington County.

The Commissioners for the county of Washington will offer the LOTS in the Town of FAYETTEVILLE, for sale, at Public Auction, at the Courthouse door in that Town, commencing on *Monday, the 8th day of December next*, and continuing from day to day until the same are sold.

Terms of Sale — An advance of ten per cent. on the amount of purchase will be required to be paid down; the balance in three equal instalments, payable at six, twelve, and eighteen months — the purchaser giving bond with approved security. A failure to pay up the instalments promptly when they fall due, to annul the purchase, and the purchaser to forfeit any payments he may have previously made.

The quarter section of land on which the Town of Fayetteville is situate, was donated by Congress to the Commissioners of the county of Washington, in trust for the use and benefit of said county, and is mostly of excellent soil. The lots are well laid out both for fancy and convenience. The Town is admirably situate, on a beautiful eminence, near the centre of the county, on the dividing land between the waters of Illinois and White rivers, and is well supplied with springs of the purest water — some running into White, and others into Illinois river.

The adjacent country presents a pleasing prospect to the spectator. On the south and east, the blue hills and mountains, with intervening prairies present themselves as far as the eye can reach; and on the south west, there is much

prairie land, of excellent quality. It seems that nature is entirely reversed in this part of the Territory, the Town site forming the dividing land between water courses. The hills and highest mountains afford level land, of excellent soil, in sufficient bodies for good farms and well watered with never failing springs. The growth of the adjacent forests is, oak, hickory, ash, mulberry, walnut, cherry, black locust, pawpaw, spice-wood, and the largest and most delicious grape in the world. It is likewise situate about five miles west of the three forks of White river, the head of navigation for keel and flat boats.

From the natural location of this Town in the center of the county, surrounded with a rich, fertile, and healthy country, already densely populated, and well supplied with never failing springs of the best water, it doubtless bids fair to become one of the most flourishing inland towns west of the Mississippi. Gentlemen wishing to avail themselves of an opportunity of making good purchases, will do well to attend.

SAMUEL VAUGHAN & L. EVANS, COM'RS
Fayetteville, Oct. 2, 1834.

-The "Arkansas Advocate" and the "Memphis Advocate" will publish the foregoing advertisement until the 1st day of December next, and send their accounts to L. Evans, Vineyard P.O., Washington county, A.T.

Transcribed from the Arkansas Gazette October 21, 1834.



CANE HILL COLLEGE

Rev. R.M. KING, A.M., President.

S. DOAK LOWRY, A.M., Professor of Ancient Languages.

JAMES H. CRAWFORD, A.B. Professor of Mathematics.

This Institution is located at Boonsboro', Washington county, Arkansas, and is under the fostering influence of the Arkansas Synod of the Cumberland Presbyterian

church; but every student is left to the unbiassed enjoyment of his religious sentiments. The past academic year closed under favorable auspices. The healthiness of its location, and the moral and religious character of the surrounding community, are favorable to the best interests of the students of the Institution. The Philosophical Apparatus is complete. The Astronomical Telescope is a beautiful instrument and most satisfactorily brings to view the wonders of the starry heavens. The Library contains about 900 vols. of the best books in the English language. The Collegiate year is divided into two sessions of twenty weeks each. The Fall and Winter session commences regularly on Monday after the 2d Sabbath in September. The Spring and Summer session on Monday after the close of the preceding session. The course of instruction is EXTENSIVE AND THOROUGH. Board, including washing and fuel, can be had in good families at \$1.50 per week, or \$30.00 per session. Terms of Tuition (payable invariably in advance.)

Primary Department	\$7.00
English Department	11.00
Preparatory Classical Department	15.00
Regular College Classes	20.00

Boonsboro', Arks, July 15, 1856

Transcribed from the Arkansas State Gazette and Democrat, August 23, 1856.



INTERNAL IMPROVEMENT MEETING

At a public meeting of the citizens of Crawford county, held at the Court House, in Van Buren, on the 13th December, 1851, to take into consideration the subject of Internal Improvements, the Hon. Andrew Morton was called in the Chair, and Alfred Wallace was appointed Secretary.

The object of the meeting was explained by E.B. Bishop,

Esq. in a very clear and lucid speech of an hour's length in which he furnished a number of valuable statistics, demonstrating the practicability and utility of rail roads, turn-pikes, &c., and of the resources of Arkansas to carry on a system of internal improvements.

Jesse Turner, Esq. was called for, who rose and addressed the meeting in an eloquent speech, urging the people of Arkansas to arouse from their lethargy; and, exhibiting to the meeting the unfortunate position of Arkansas being behind all the States of the Union, when at the same time she has natural resources behind no State except California.

The Hon. Geo. W. Clarke, followed Mr. Turner, with some able and forcible remarks on the subject of Internal Improvements generally, and seized upon the present occasion to present the necessity and practicability of a Plank Road from Van Buren to Fayetteville, informing the meeting that he had already received reliable assurances from gentlemen of capital in this city that they would take stock in such a road, amounting to over one-fourth of the stock; and that he entertained not a doubt about raising a sufficient amount to proceed at once in the construction of the road.

Gen. Wilcox next addressed the meeting, warmly backing the proposition to construct the Plank Road to Fayetteville, and urging that unless we open a channel for the products of the country, the people in those counties would do it themselves to whichever point suited their interest...

Mr. Bishop introduced the following resolutions, which, after some discussion upon them, were adopted:

...Resolved, That the Chair appoint a Committee, whose duty it shall be to open books for stock for a Plank Road from Van Buren to Fayetteville, receive subscriptions, and to otherwise organize a company under the Charter, granted at the last Legislature, for that object. Adopted.

The Chair appointed the following gentlemen to compose said committee:

Messrs. Geo. W. Clarke, E.B. Bishop, Jesse Turner, John Bostick, A.J. Ward, H. Wilcox, and John Henry...

On motion of Mr. Morrill, the meeting adjourned.

Andrew Morton, Chairman.

A. Wallace, Secretary.

Transcribed from the Arkansas State Gazette and Democrat, January 2, 1852, page 3, col. 3.



HOW PLANK ROADS ARE NOW CONSTRUCTED

Messrs. Editors — Our people seem to be now somewhat alive on the subject of roads, and although far behind the times, better late than never — I will here state the most approved mode of constructing plank roads.

The track is graded, the earth thrown up a foot high, 9 or 10 feet wide, levelled off and pressed down firmly. The plank is cut 8 feet long, from 6 to 8 inches wide and three inches thick, and then placed on the bed of the road; — earth is then thrown on each end of the plank to the depth of 8 to 10 inches, which confines the plank firmly.

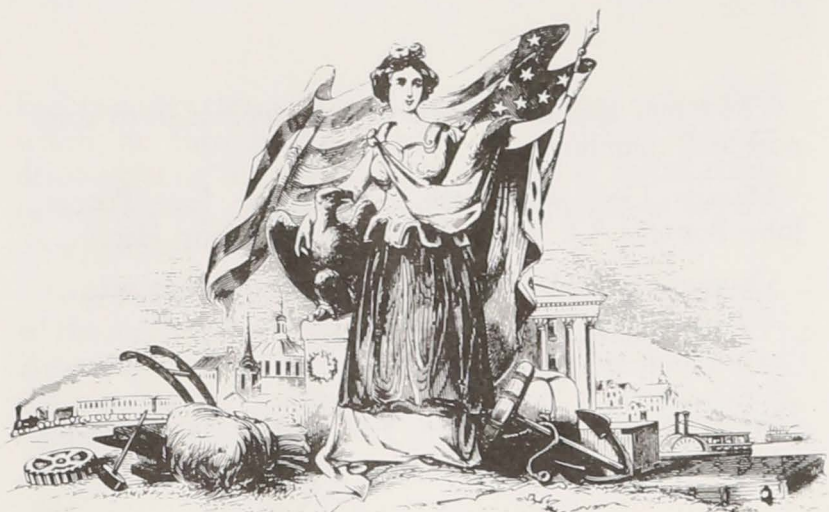
This is the whole structure. Any person can calculate the cost, which must be but trifling.

April 7, 1852

John Adamson

Transcribed from the Arkansas State Gazette and Democrat, April 9, 1852, page 2, col. 3.





PRELIMINARY REPORT ON THE EIGHTH CENSUS

by Jos. C.G. Kennedy

The 1860 Census was taken under the leadership of Joseph Camp Griffith Kennedy, a most distinguished statistician of the period. He submitted a descriptive report to the Senate in May, 1862, just on the eve of the Civil War. Here, in Kennedy's own words, are excerpts from that report which your editor thought particularly interesting to FLASHBACK readers 126 years later.

Diseases, and Causes of Death

IN THE DISCUSSION OF MORTALITY STATISTICS from other points of view, the conclusion was reached that the actual deaths in the United States occur at the rate of one in forty-five or forty-six of the whole population, and that they amounted to about 680,000 during the year 1860. It will further be admitted, in respect to the corresponding prevalence of sickness and invaliding, that twice the number of annual deaths in a large community will exhibit very nearly the number that are constantly sick. This rule is practically confirmed by numerous statistical comparisons, and though applicable more directly to manhood than to infancy and old age, yet on the whole it is found to furnish a near and convenient approximation. Accordingly, doubling the number of deaths, we readily obtain 1,360,000 for the number con-

stantly sick during the year of the census.

The number of sick will be seen to constitute about one twenty-third part of the whole population. Besides watch-care, maintenance, and other attendant charges, so much is the efficiency of our population in respect to labor diminished, and so much is lost to industry and production. It is true that a certain prevalence of disease must be deemed, in the course of nature, "the inevitable lot," yet a large portion is needless, being clearly traceable to the neglect of temperance and the laws of health. The diminution of the current rate of sickness and mortality evidently pertains to the general prosperity and happiness, and may well constitute the leading idea in examining the statistics of disease.

What diseases are most influenced by the vicissitudes of climate, and what by the conditions of place? The former depending on the condition of the atmosphere, and attacking many persons at the same time, have long since been designated epidemic diseases; of which fever, dysentery, influenza, smallpox, and scarlatina or scarlet fever, are examples. The diseases arising from some peculiarity of the soil and surface have been similarly termed endemic; thus, ague is endemic in some marshy districts. More recently it has been proposed to include both epidemic and endemic, together with contagious diseases under the single title of *zymotic diseases*.

Among *zymotics* are arranged four diseases which are contagious, and which can visit the same individual, as a general rule, but once in the lifetime; these are *smallpox*, *measles*, *scarlatina*, and *whooping-cough*. The last three prevail among children more especially. Other maladies under this head, such as dysentery, fevers, and cholera, are noted for wide fluctuations in different periods. Such peculiarities give to this category the greatest interest, and the question whether one particular year or locality is more healthy than another chiefly depends on the relative mortality from zymotic diseases. All other diseases may be regarded as isolated disorders, such as apoplexy, consump-

tion, dropsy, which bear off nearly the same proportion of the living in every year.

What maladies have been the most fatal in the United States? The number of deaths by *consumption* is the greatest of all. Next to this is the family of *fevers*.

Lastly, the statistics of *Violent Deaths* will be found interesting, as the causes of demise are more intelligible or less shrouded in mystery than those of disease. It appears that only 5,669 "accidental deaths" of females were reported, against 12,399 deaths of males by accident. A still greater disparity of the same kind is shown in the subdivisions of "drowning, fall, fire-arms, freezing," and "railroad" accidents. The deaths by "suffocation," however, are quite evenly distributed among the two sexes. But among the deaths by "burns and scalds" the predominant loss ranges decidedly to the side of females, a result of fire naturally following from domestic avocations and difference in attire. On the whole, taking the accidental deaths as the measures of risk during that year (June 1859-May 1860) contrasted with the present, the implied interference may be expressed that the male class are fully twice as much exposed to dangers as the female class, in their usual habits of life.

Under the head of *suicides* are counted 794 deaths of males and 208 females, or nearly as four to one. Among these desertions from life, "hanging" is the principal resort. To complete the dark picture in which has been given to the "unproportioned thought, its act," 458 deaths by justifiable and unjustifiable "homicide" are also reported, together with 526 "murders" and 61 "executions." So many distinct cases have been gathered, and a considerable number more have doubtless escaped registration.

Petroleum

AN IMPORTANT DEVELOPMENT of the natural resources of the country, and a valuable addition to its exports, have been made by the discovery, within two or three years, that certain indications, known to the

aboriginal and early European inhabitants of the western country, of natural reservoirs of inflammable oil existing upon the headwaters of the Alleghany river in New York and Pennsylvania, were but the clue to apparently inexhaustible supplies of native oil, accessible at no great depth throughout an extended belt of country, embracing the bituminous coal measures of several States.

Petroleum, rock, or mineral oil, a natural product of the decomposition of organic matter, emitted from the soil in various formations, particularly those of rock salt, was known and employed to some extent by the ancients, having been mentioned by the father of history twenty-three hundred years ago, and by Greek and Roman writers of later date. In its more fluid form, as found on the shores of the Caspian Sea, near the Irawaddy of Burmah, in Italy, and some parts of our country, it has borne the name of *naptha*, while the more solid elements of the same substance predominated in the articles known as *asphaltum* and *bitumen*, found abundantly in the Great Pitch Lake of the Island of Trinidad, near the Dead Sea in Judea, and elsewhere. Petroleum is nearly identical in properties with the artificial oils, which have been long derived from the destructive distillation of different minerals, as *cannel coal* and *brown coal*, or *lignite*, *bituminous shales*, *sands*, *clays*, *peat*, &c., which have been the subject of numerous patents in Europe and America, and within the last eight years have been manufactured to a considerably extent in the United States and the neighboring provinces, until the native petroleum springs opened a source of cheaper supply.

As a product of our own country this remarkable substance was brought to the notice of the white population, as early as the middle of the last century, by the Seneca Indians, who found it upon Oil creek, a branch of the Alleghany, in Venango county, Pennsylvania, and near the head of the Genesee River, in New York, whence it received the name of "*Seneca oil*" and "*Genesee oil*." It was used by the natives in their religious ceremonies, and

as medicament for wounds, &c. For the last-named purpose it has been long collected and sold in small quantities at a high price. A perennial flow of oil has been known to exist on Oil creek, above referred to, for a century. For the last forty years the spring has been enclosed in a vat, or structure of wood and stones, which was daily skimmed by the proprietor and made the source of considerable revenue. We have seen extensive diggings in this region made by the French more than a century since, while that nation held the valley of the Mississippi, which were evidently made with a view to ascertain the basis or source of what, no doubt, impressed the French officers as a most interesting and curious development of the bounty of nature. Petroleum, doubtless, formed an article of considerable traffic between the Indians and traders of that region; as we have seen, in some old account books of the last century, "gallons" and "kegs" of Seneca oil credited to Indians.

Its existence in any vast amount appears to have been unknown until 1845, when a spring was "struck," while boring for salt, near Tarentum, thirty-five miles above Pittsburg, on the Alleghany. Experiments having proved its constituents to be nearly the same as those of the artificial carbon oil, a company was organized in New York to attempt its purification by the same process applied to the latter. But little was effected, however, and in 1857 Messrs. Bowditch and Drake, of New Haven, commenced operations at Titusville, on Oil creek, where traces of early explorations were found, and in August, 1859, a fountain was reached by boring, at the depth of seventy-one feet, which yielded 400 gallons daily. Before the close of the year 1860, the number of wells and borings was estimated to be about two thousand, of which seventy-four of the larger ones were producing daily, by the aid of pumps, an aggregate of eleven hundred and sixty-five barrels of crude oil, worth, at twenty cents a gallon, about ten thousand dollars.

The exportation of crude and refined petroleum from the principal Atlantic cities to Europe, South America,

and the West Indies, has already become considerable, the larger proportion being shipped to England.

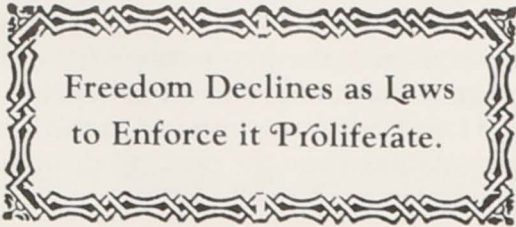
The importance of this article is not limited to its value as an item in the export trade of our cities. Attention appears to have been first directed to it on account of the demand for a safe and cheap material for illumination, in place of the dangerous compounds of turpentine and other explosive hydro-carbons, as well as for lubricating purposes in which it has proved to be a valuable substitute for animal oils. There is no doubt that the various other uses of crude petroleum, or its constituents, will render it a valuable acquisition to the arts. The business of refining the raw product, in order to remove from it all corrosive and volatile elements, already employs a number of establishments, and will become one of some magnitude. Practical chemistry is daily adding to the number and variety of uses which the substances eliminated in the process of rectification may be made to subserve in the arts.

Having partially reviewed the progressive industry of our country during the last decade, and seen the advancement in all that relates to the peaceful arts, the numerous improvements made in the implements and enginery of warfare, which are patent and undeniable, deserve consideration. Our improved fire-arms, especially rifles and pistols, have obtained a reputation not alone in Europe, but in Africa, Asia, and the islands of the sea, the traveller finds that his revolvers of American invention and manufacture exert a salutary influence on the Bedouin and the robber.

The machinery for making the various parts of rifles and other firearms, which in its automatic exercise, seems almost endowed with reasoning faculties, owes its origin to the inventive genius of New England. The Enfield rifle was transplanted to England by a son of Vermont, under whose superintendence the arms were made. And even the Armstrong gun, which obtained for its reputed inventor the honor of knighthood, was invented in this country, for a model was submitted and the principle demonstrated to scientific gentlemen at Harvard College anterior to its ap-

pearance in Great Britain.

Without any special stimulus to growth — depressed, indeed, during the years 1857 and 1858, in common with other public interests, by the general financial embarrassments of those years — and with a powerful competition in the amazing growth of manufactures in Great Britain and nearly every other nation of Europe, the manufactories of the United States had nevertheless been augmented, diversified, and perfected in nearly every branch, and almost uniformly throughout the Union. Domestic materials, whether animal, vegetable, or mineral, found ready sales at remunerative prices, and were increased in amount with the demand, while commerce and internal trade were invigorated by the distribution of both raw and manufactured products. Invention was stimulated and rewarded. Labor and capital found ample and profitable employment, and new and unexpected fields were opened for each. Agriculture furnished food and materials at moderate cost, and the skill of our artisans cheapened and multiplied all artificial instruments of comfort and happiness for the people. Even the more purely agricultural States of the south were rapidly creating manufactories for the improvement of their great staples and their abundant natural resources. The nation seemed speedily approaching a period of complete independence in respect to the products of skilled labor, and national security and happiness seemed about to be insured by the harmonious development of all the great interests of the people. Peace reigned within our borders and waited upon our name abroad. But in an evil hour the tide of prosperity had been stayed, whether to be rolled back or not, the ninth census will reveal.



Freedom Declines as Laws
to Enforce it Proliferate.

PRINCESS TREE

On the back cover is pictured Arkansas' State Champion Royal Pawlonia tree. The Society is proud to have it growing in the extreme southwest corner of our grounds at Headquarters House. Its circumference is 9 feet 3 inches, and its age is estimated at 60 years.

In the spring there is a showy display of pink and purple flowers. Throughout the summer its large leaves, similar to those of a catalpa, provide plenty of shade. The Pawlonia is from China and was introduced in this country more than a hundred years ago. It is found mostly in the south because of its dislike of cold weather.

Known also as "Princess Tree" or "Empress Tree", it was named for Anna Paulownia, Princess of Russia and the Netherlands from 1795 to 1865. Japanese used its lightweight wood to make furniture and sandals. The photo was made by Deborah Robinson of the *Northwest Arkansas Times*. Lisa Davoust, WCHS secretary, posed to give some scale to the picture.



The front cover shows the minieball hole made in a front door during the Battle of Fayetteville. April 17, 1988 marks the 125th anniversary of this battle. This door is now an inner door to improve its chances for a long life. This photo also by Deborah Robinson.

CONTENTS
NOVEMBER 1988

My Dear Mat	1
Pedigree Chart	5
James W. Yates	10
Window on the Frontier	11
The Curtis Congregation	21
Honors to the Dead	28
John Enyart	29
Queries	33
Seven Ladies of Goshen	34
Some Research Gems	35
From Eighth Census Report ..	42

